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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Rob Childress, Resident Agent in Charge of the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General; Donald W. Thompson, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Division; and Colonel Henry W. Stanley, Jr., Chief of Police, Henrico County, announced the return of a federal grand jury indictment charging Kim Elizabeth Parker, age 48, of Henrico County, with 73 felony counts for fraud associated with her receipt of social security benefits and private donations on behalf of Brittany Williams, a minor child.

The indictment alleges that Parker took custody of Brittany Williams, an HIV positive child, in March 1996 and thereafter received social security benefits to be used for the care and well-being of Brittany. The indictment further alleges that Parker gave up custody of Brittany in August of 2000; however she continued to receive social security benefits intended for the care of Brittany and solicited private parties for donations on behalf of the child after she left her care. The indictment includes 47 counts of mail fraud and 15 counts of wire fraud. The maximum penalty for each of these offenses is a 20-year term of imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.00.

In addition to mail and wire fraud, the indictment alleges that Parker used the social security benefits intended for Brittany to fund an addition to her residence. The indictment includes five counts of money laundering regarding payments made to contractors who performed work on the residence. The maximum penalties for each of these counts is 23 years of imprisonment and a \$500,000.00 fine. The indictment also contains allegations of false statements to federal agencies and unlawful conversion of social security benefits, each of which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of five years and a fine of up to \$250,000.00. Parker has been in federal custody since her arrest on March 18, 2003, based on a Criminal Complaint alleging social security fraud.

The case is being investigated by the SSA/OIG, FBI, and Henrico County Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura C. Marshall.